

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/724,169

Examiner

Tianjie Chen

Applicant(s)

PARK ET AL.

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 07/25/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,5 and 6.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
 - With regard to independent claim 1, as the closest reference, the Applicant Admitted Prior Art shows an optical disc drive comprising: a case having a circuit board; a tray to have an optical disc mounted thereon, and installed in the case and slidable in and out of the case; a main base coupled to the tray, the main base comprising a spindle motor to rotate the optical disc, a bracket to support the spindle motor, an optical pickup to access the optical disc and a driving motor to drive the optical pickup; a flexible printed circuit comprising a first flexible printed circuit electrically connecting the circuit board and the main base, and a second flexible printed circuit electrically connecting the main base and the tray, a ground pattern is formed on the second flexible printed circuit to ground static electricity, and a base cover coupled to the main base to protect the main base; **but fails to show** an exposure portion of the ground pattern is formed on an end portion of the second flexible printed circuit, and a contact portion electrically contacting the exposure portion of the ground pattern is formed on the base cover so that static electricity applied to the base cover is grounded.
 - With regard to independent claim 6, as the closest reference, the Applicant Admitted Prior Art shows an optical disc drive comprising: a case having a circuit board; a tray to have an optical disc mounted thereon, and installed in the case and slidable in and out of the case; a main base coupled to the tray, the main base comprising a spindle motor to rotate the optical disc, a bracket to

support the spindle motor, an optical pickup to access the optical disc and a driving motor to drive the optical pickup; a flexible printed circuit comprising a first flexible printed circuit electrically connecting the circuit board and the main base, and a second flexible printed circuit electrically connecting the main base, a ground pattern is formed on the second flexible printed circuit to ground static electricity, and a base cover coupled to the main base and coated with an insulation layer to protect the main base; **but fails to show** an exposure portion of the ground pattern is formed at an end portion of the second flexible printed circuit and is exposed outwardly to ground static electricity, wherein a contact portion of the base cover is bent toward the exposure portion of the ground pattern and a cut surface of the contact portion is not coated with the insulation layer to allow electricity to flow from the contact portion to the exposure portion of the ground pattern.

- Applicant asserts: “the present invention to provide an optical disc drive in which the number of components is reduced so that cost is reduced and a static electricity removing function is improved” (Specification, p. 3).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tianjie Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7570. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER